

JAN WREDE. 2005. **Trees, Shrubs, and Vines of the Texas Hill Country.** (ISBN 1-58544-426-X, pbk.). Louise Lindsey Merick Natural Environment series; no. 39. Texas A&M University Press, John H. Lindsey Bldg., Lewis St. 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354, U.S.A. (Orders: wlawrence@tamu.edu, <http://www.tamu.edu/upress>, 800-826-8911). \$23.00 hbk., 246 pp., color photos, index, 5 3/4" × 8 1/2".

Each of 126 species is illustrated by at least one color photograph. A short morphological description is provided for each species with a brief commentary on aspects of its biology, growth characteristics, and uses (for landscape and for wildlife forage and habitat). Within gymnosperms, dicots, and monocots the species are arranged alphabetically by family, genus, and species, one species per page. The first one-fifth of the book includes nicely written sections on red cedar management, healthy streams, benefits of native species, landscaping with woody plants, and invasive species. At the end are appendices with information on native plant nurseries and demonstration gardens and other resources for native plants. A multi-page chart gives "color or aroma," "season," "potential height," "site preference," and "wildlife uses" for 117 native species. The book surely will quickly be in the hands of many residents of central Texas and will be much used and valued. It potentially provides a great service toward Hill Country conservation.

For identification of woody plants, Wrede's book is the successor of Daniel Lynch's *Native & Naturalized Woody Plants of Austin & the Hill Country* (1981) and could have supplanted it. Surprisingly, though, the newer book does not include a large set of Hill Country species treated and illustrated in the earlier one: *Ageratina* (*Eupatorium*) *havanensis*, *Ampelopsis arborea*, *Ampelopsis cordata*, *Andrachne phyllanthoides*, *Berchemia scandens*, *Bernardia myricifolia*, *Buddleja racemosa*, *Castela texana*, *Catalpa speciosa*, *Ephedra antisiphyllytica*, *Ficus carica*, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, *Galphimia* (*Thryallis*) *angustifolia*, *Juglans nigra*, *Ligustrum sinense*, *Mimosa biuncifera*, *Nicotiana glauca*, *Pavonia lasiopetala*, *Populus alba*, *Prunus caroliniana*, *Prunus mexicana*, *Quercus macrocarpa*, *Quercus sinuata*, *Rosa bracteata*, *Sesbania drummondii*, *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*, *Thamnosma texana*, *Ulmus americana*.

Among further Hill Country omissions, more conspicuous and interesting are these: *Amorpha roemeriana*, *Convolvulus arvensis*, *Condalia viridis*, *Croton texensis* var. *alabamensis*, *Dalea formosa*, *Diospyros virginiana*, *Forestiera reticulata*, *Juglans major*, *Ligustrum lucidum*, *Ligustrum quihoui*, *Matelea edwardsensis*, *Mimosa texana*, *Parthenocissus heptaphylla*, *Passiflora incarnata*, *Rubus biflorus*, *Salix exigua*, *Salvia ballotiflora*. Also not included are *Opuntia engelmannii* (the most common Hill Country species of prickly pear, the Texas state plant), *O. imbricata*, *O. davisii*, *O. macrocarpa*, and *O. phaeacantha*. Hawthorns are treated as "*Crataegus* sp.," according to the myth that "The taxonomy of the Hill Country *Crataegus* is uncertain," and continuing "and there may be several species that are very hard to separate, so all can be conveniently treated as one." *Crataegus crus-galli*, *C. greggiana*, *C. reverchonii*, *C. tracyi*, *C. turnerorum*, *C. uvaldensis*, and *C. viridis* are Hill Country species and are no more difficult to identify than the *Prunus* species. The smaller photo (p. 148) shows *C. crus-galli*, the larger *C. tracyi*. Finally, in view of the lengthy and useful discussion of cedar management (all presumably assumed to be *Juniperus ashei*), at least a mention of *J. pinchotii* and *J. virginiana* would have been appropriate, although neither is abundant in the Hill Country.—Guy Nesom and Bob O'Kennon, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, 76012-4060, U.S.A.